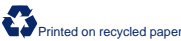


Rep. Kathy Lambert
P.O. Box 40600
Olympia, WA 98504-0600



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**Mark your
Calendar!**

**Town Hall
Meetings on
Feb. 19**

**45th District Day
Feb. 23**

Details inside



Rep. Kathy Lambert

- INSIDE:**
- **Changing the way government does business**
 - **Providing quality education**
 - **Improving transportation**
 - **Keeping communities safe**

Dear Friends,

Lawmakers have a tremendous opportunity over the next several weeks to make fundamental reforms that will improve our state government. We are less than one month into a 60-day legislative session, and I am currently in Olympia working with my colleagues from both parties on reforms that will be good for the citizens of our state.

The message voters sent when they approved Initiative 695 was loud and clear. They want us to reduce waste and still protect priority services such as public safety, transportation and education. Initiative 695 was not just a vote to reduce car license taxes. It was a vote for more efficient and accountable government.

This newsletter includes my five-point plan for reducing government waste, protecting essential services, and allowing Washington taxpayers to keep more of their hard-earned money.

Finally, I've added something a little new to this latest constituent report. Included in this newsletter is a citizen's electronic guide to our state government. Technology is becoming a valuable tool for improving access to state government. I hope this directory will help. If you have questions about state government, my e-mail address is at the top of the list. I look forward to working together.

Sincerely,

Kathy Lambert
State Representative
45th District

**2000 Session Report and
Electronic Government Guide**

An electronic guide to state government

This directory is being provided to you so that you may gain better access to government agencies and services through the use of personal technology.

Important Government E-Mail Addresses

State Rep. Kathy Lambert	lambert_ka@leg.wa.gov
State Rep. Laura Ruderman	ruderman_la@leg.wa.gov
State Sen. Bill Finkbeiner	finkbein_bi@leg.wa.gov
Governor's Office	governor.locke@governor.wa.gov
Lt. Governor's Office	owen_br@leg.wa.gov
Secretary of State	mail@secstate.wa.gov
State Treasurer	watreas@tre.wa.gov
State Auditor	sonntagb@sao.wa.gov
State Attorney General	emailago@atg.wa.gov
Superintendent of Public Instruction	bergeson@ospi.wednet.edu
Department of Natural Resources	information@wadnr.gov
Office of the Insurance Commissioner	DeborahS@oic.wa.gov

Key Websites

Washington State Legislature home page	www.leg.wa.gov/wsladm
Includes access to bill information and legislative resources.	
House home page	www.leg.wa.gov/house
Includes information on individual representatives, committee hearings, meeting schedules, and district information.	
Senate home page	www.leg.wa.gov/senate
Includes information on individual senators, committee hearings, meeting schedules, and district information.	
Governor's home page	www.governor.wa.gov
For information from the governor's office.	
ACCESS Washington	www.access.wa.gov
Includes links to government agencies and other useful state resources.	

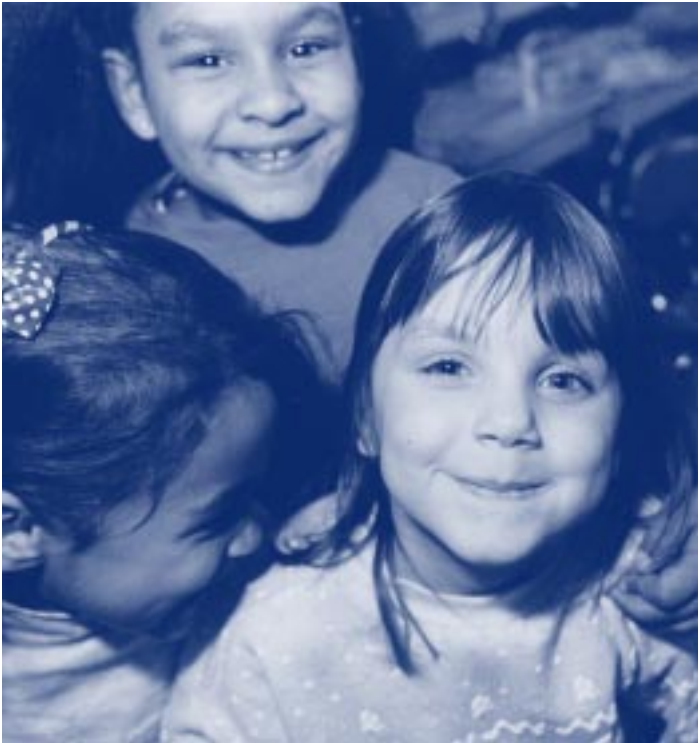
Creating quality schools

Our focus this session is on three areas:

Letting teachers teach - Good teachers should be rewarded for dedication, innovation and success. Teachers and schools need more flexibility from regulations that take away time from teaching and impede learning. At the same time, parents deserve every assurance that teachers know their subjects well.

Letting parents choose - Parents should have the right to decide where their son or daughter has the best chance for success. If a school is failing, parents should have the right to choose another learning environment that is better for their child. This kind of competition among schools is healthy.

Letting children learn - We want our children to come home safe to us at the end of each day. Our schools must be safe from violence and classrooms must be places that are conducive to teaching and learning. I support giving schools and teachers the authority to maintain a safe learning environment and to work cooperatively with parents and law enforcement to deal swiftly with disruptive students.





Initiative 695

Message behind the tax cut - Control taxes and government spending

The message voters sent when they approved Initiative 695 was loud and clear. People want their tax dollars used more efficiently. Anyone who thinks this vote was a message to cut or eliminate important services or replace one tax with another just was not listening. My business background tells me we have a lot of room for efficiency before we start talking about cutting into the services people want and deserve from government.

Initiative 695 presents us with a great opportunity to improve the way things are done at every level of government. Here are some of the reforms I support that will help make this measure work the way citizens hoped it would.

1) Evaluating existing programs and eliminating outdated, ineffective and duplicated services. Historically, the budget process begins with the assumption that all current programs will be funded without justifying whether they are needed or measuring their effectiveness. Performance- or zero-based budgeting means starting from scratch, re-evaluating the role of government, eliminating outdated or duplicated services, and ensuring that government is doing a good job at providing basic needs for citizens.

2) Cutting waste. A recent state-sponsored audit of the Department of Transportation found that cost overruns on transportation projects average about 10 percent. By comparison, the average in Oregon is 3 percent. Our cost per lane-mile is above the national average. We can do a better job of managing our current resources.

3) Reducing or eliminating fees government agencies charge to administer funds to local government. Every tax dollar a state agency keeps is a dollar that fails to go to its intended purpose.

4) Competitive bidding and contracting to reduce the cost of delivering services.

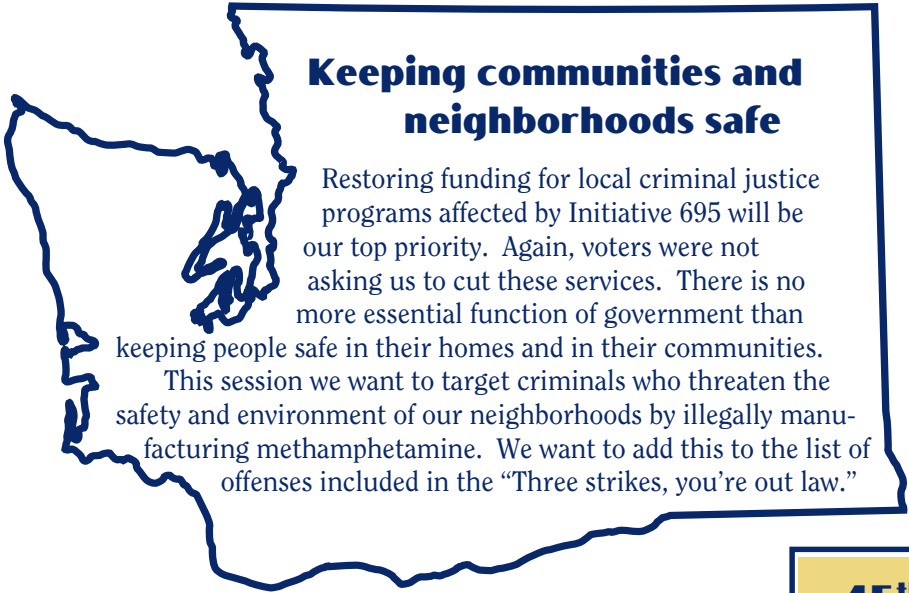
5) Eliminating unnecessary and costly local mandates.

I've also spent the last couple of months evaluating government's use of new technology, which has the potential to save money. I hope that will be part of the discussion as we look for ways to achieve efficiency.

House Republican Agenda • 2000 Session

"Controlling Taxes and Making Government Work!"

1. Build the public's trust by changing the way government does business.
2. Provide quality education by letting children learn, letting teachers teach and letting parents choose.
3. Improve transportation by reducing traffic congestion and improving safety.
4. Keep neighborhoods and communities safe by protecting local police and fire safety.



I'd like to hear from you!

I'm here to serve you as well as represent you. If you have questions or concerns about state government or if you have an idea about how we can make our state a better place, I'd like to hear from you.

Rep. Kathy Lambert
P.O. Box 40600
Olympia, WA 98504
(360) 786-7878

E-mail: lambert_ka@leg.wa.gov

Toll-Free Legislative Hotline 1-800-562-6000

Staying up to speed on transportation

Initiative 695 was not a rebuke of our state's efforts to make needed improvements to our transportation system. Whether it's from home to work or school to soccer practice, we expect our transportation system to help us get there in a dependable and timely manner. Yet the daily congestion often makes it difficult for us to get where we need to go. The gridlock is threatening our economy, our personal safety, and our quality of life.

Although I-695 eliminated a major source of funding for transportation, we realize that mobility and safety on our highways remains a high priority for citizens. There are options available that we intend to explore that will allow us to continue with improvements to our highways without new taxes.



Other priorities

In addition to the key issues outlined above, I will introducing legislation this session to achieve the following:

- Create greater efficiency in government
- Protect personal privacy of citizens in the information age
- Make neighborhood home day care more available to working families
- Streamline court procedures and increase use of technology to make our legal system more responsive and efficient.

45th District Calendar

Please mark the following dates on your calendar and plan to join me at one or more of these activities.

Town Hall Meetings

I will be holding two local town hall meetings on **Saturday, Feb. 19**. Everyone is invited and no reservations are necessary. Please plan to attend at one of the times and locations below.

10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. at the Woodinville Library, 17105 Avondale Rd. NE

1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. at the Redmond Library, Meeting Room 2, 15810 NE 85th Street

45th District Day

You are cordially invited to join me as my guest in Olympia on **Wednesday, February 23**. We will have a no-host lunch together and you will have an opportunity to tour Capitol Campus facilities, attend committee meetings, and see your Legislature in action. Please RSVP by calling my Legislative Assistant Donna Sorrell at (360) 786-7878.

HOPE TO SEE YOU!